



Keystone Ag Digest



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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This publication may be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."				

Note to Survey Respondents: Results of many surveys we conduct throughout the year are included in this report! Most survey results are not published individually. **Thank you** for taking the time to complete our surveys!

HOG AND PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,090,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on March 1, 2007. This estimated inventory was 20,000 head more than the December 1 inventory, but was 20,000 head less than the March 1, 2006 inventory. Market hog inventory, at 990,000 head, increased 25,000 head since December; while breeding stock inventory, at 100,000 head, was down 5,000 head from December, but unchanged from last March. The December 2006-February 2007 pig crop totaled 387,000 head, down 78,000 head from March a year earlier and unchanged from the September -November 2006 pig crop. There were 43,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down from 47,000 a year ago. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 43 percent of the breeding herd. The average litter rate was 9.0 pigs per litter, unchanged from December and down from the 9.90 pigs for March a year ago.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 46,000 sows farrow during the March-May 2007 period and 46,000 for the June-August quarter, 1,000 less than actually farrowed in March-May 2006 and 1,000 more than actually farrowed in the June-August period one year ago.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2007, was 61.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2006, but down 2 percent

from December 1, 2006. Breeding inventory, at 6.08 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.0 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2006 - February 2007 U.S. pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 2 percent from 2006, and up 3 percent from 2005. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 2.87 million head, up 1 percent from both 2005 and 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the December 2006-February 2007 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2007 quarter, down slightly from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2006, but up 1 percent from 2005. Intended farrowings for June-August 2007, at 2.92 million sows, are virtually unchanged from both 2006 and 2005. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBER, MARCH 1, 2006-2007

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	2006	2007	2007/06	2006	2007	2007/06
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - March 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs.....	1,110	1,090	98	60,326	61,103	101
Kept For Breeding.....	100	100	100	6,025	6,081	101
Market.....	1,010	990	98	54,301	55,022	101
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds.....	370	295	80	19,988	20,265	101
60-119 Pounds.....	270	290	107	13,006	13,086	101
120-179 Pounds.....	210	215	102	11,434	11,423	100
180 Pounds and Over.....	160	190	119	9,874	10,248	104
Sows Farrowing:						
December ¹ - February.....	47	43	91	2,840	2,874	101
March-May.....	47	² 46	98	2,927	² 2,913	100
June-August.....	45	² 46	102	2,912	² 2,917	100
Pig Crop:						
December ¹ - February.....	465	387	83	25,661	26,084	102
	Number			Number		
Pigs Per Litter:						
December ¹ - February.....	9.90	9.00	91	9.03	9.08	101

¹ December preceding year. ² Intentions.

MARCH FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASED
5 POINTS FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 133 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.9 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 6 points (4.3 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.2 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, lettuce, oranges, and broilers. Lower prices were received for strawberries, celery, corn, and hogs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities

producers sell. Increased average marketings of strawberries, broilers, and milk offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, and corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (18 percent) from March 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 134, increased 6 points (4.7 percent) from last month and increased 19 points (17 percent) from March 2006.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, MARCH 2007

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007 ¹	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007 ¹
Dollars							
Corn	Bu.	2.49	4.03	4.11	2.06	3.44	3.36
Wheat, Winter ²	Bu.	-	-	-	3.82	4.67	4.66
Oats	Bu.	2.41	2.35	2.33	1.82	2.34	2.24
Barley ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.70	3.10	3.27
Soybeans ²	Bu.	-	-	-	5.57	6.87	6.85
Hay, Dry All	Ton	138.00	141.00	140.00	97.50	114.00	117.00
Dry Alfalfa	Ton	174.00	159.00	159.00	100.00	117.00	120.00
Dry Other	Ton	132.00	136.00	137.00	90.10	105.00	108.00
Apples, Fresh Use	Lb.	0.240	0.173	0.214	0.198	0.285	0.284
Cows, Slaughter	Cwt.	49.80	48.60	48.30	49.50	47.00	46.90
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	84.70	86.40	89.90	92.80	91.50	97.20
Calves	Cwt.	138.00	111.00	111.00	139.00	117.00	123.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	41.10	44.70	42.70	43.20	48.10	45.90
Sows	Cwt.	33.50	32.80	35.10	34.20	32.20	34.40
Sheep	Cwt.	50.70	52.00	-	40.10	36.50	-
Lambs	Cwt.	119.00	110.00	-	92.10	95.40	-
Eggs ³	Doz.	0.450	0.600	0.630	0.499	0.627	0.681
Milk, Fluid Grade	Cwt.	14.80	16.50	-	12.60	14.90	15.50
Manufactured Grade	Cwt.	11.00	13.60	-	11.50	14.40	15.00
All	Cwt.	14.80	16.50	17.10	12.60	14.90	15.50
Milk Cows ⁴	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Preliminary. ² Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. ³ Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. ⁴ Quarterly (Jan., Apr., Jul, Oct.).

APPLE STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES

Commodity	All Warehouse Stocks		
	February 28, 2006	January 31, 2006	February 28, 2007
<i>Pennsylvania</i>			
Apples:			
Regular Storage	80,094,000	88,200,000	69,678,000
Controlled Atmosphere	88,620,000	97,146,000	82,194,000
TOTAL APPLES	168,714,000	185,346,000	151,872,000
<i>United States</i>			
Apples:			
Regular Storage	291,084,000	445,584,000	305,412,000
Controlled Atmosphere	2,932,011,000	3,401,791,000	2,812,654,000
TOTAL APPLES	3,223,095,000	3,847,375,000	3,118,066,000

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS,
FEBRUARY 28, 2007

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 3,616,000 bushels on February 28, 2007, compared to 4,017,000 bushels on February 28, 2006. The three varieties with the largest fresh market and processing reported stocks in bushels were: York with 955,000; Golden Delicious with 906,000;

and Rome with 762,000.

Total apple stocks in Pennsylvania totaled 151,872,000 pounds on February 28, 2007, compared to 168,714,000 pounds on February 28, 2006.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Pennsylvania farmers intend to plant more acres of corn this spring and harvest more acres of burley and seedleaf-type tobacco this year than a year ago. Wheat and southern Maryland type tobacco acres are unchanged from last year. Planting intentions for barley, oats, sorghum, and soybeans are all down from last year, as are harvesting intentions for dry hay. All **wheat** planted, at 160,000 acres, is unchanged from last year, and 7 percent above the 2005 planted acres. **Barley** planting intentions are estimated at 50,000 acres, 9 percent less than the 55,000 acres planted the last two years. **Oat** planting intended acreage is 125,000, down 7 percent from last year, and 11 percent below 2005.

Intended plantings of **corn** for all purposes are 1,450,000 acres, up 100,000 acres or 7 percent from both last year and two years ago, and the highest intended acreage to be planted for all purposes since 1,450,000 acres were planted in 2003. Farmers also intend to plant 11,000 acres of **sorghum** in 2007, which is down 2,000 acres from last year, but unchanged from 2005. **Soybean** acreage planting intentions are 410,000 acres, 5 percent less than the 430,000 planted both last year and in 2005.

Intentions are to harvest 1,100 acres of Southern Maryland-type **tobacco**, unchanged from 2006 and down 27 percent from two years ago. Pennsylvania seedleaf-type tobacco harvested acreage is expected to be 1,800 acres, 38 percent above both last year and two years ago. Pennsylvania farmers also intend to plant 6,500 acres of light air-cured burley tobacco this year, which is 18 percent above last year and 195 percent more than two years ago. Harvest intentions for all **dry hay** in 2007 are estimated at 1,700,000 acres, down 50,000 acres from last year's harvest, but 100,000 acres more than in 2005.

Corn growers in the **United States** intend to plant 90.5 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, up 15 percent from 2006 and 11 percent higher than 2005. If realized, this would be the highest acreage since 1944 when 95.5 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is up in nearly all states as high corn prices are encouraging farmers to plant more acres to corn. The increase in intended acres is partially offset by lower expected acres of soybeans in the Corn Belt and Great Plains and fewer expected acres of cotton and rice in the Delta and Southeast. Illinois farmers intend to plant a record high 12.9 million acres of corn this spring, up 1.60 million acres from last year.

Soybean producers intend to plant 67.1 million acres in 2007, down 11 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest planted area since 1996. Acreage decreases are expected in all growing areas, except in New York and the Southeast. Large decreases in soybean acreage are expected across the Corn Belt, with the largest decline expected in Illinois, down 1.40 million acres from 2006. However, area planted to soybeans is expected to increase in the Southeast, with Georgia expecting the largest increase from last year at 95,000 acres. Planted acreage in New York is expected to be the largest on record at 210,000.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 60.3 million acres, up 5 percent from 2006. The 2007 winter wheat planted area, at 44.5 million acres, is 10 percent above last year and up 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter wheat; 8.66 million acres are Soft Red Winter wheat, and 3.92 million acres White Winter wheat.

The 2007 intended sorghum area intended to be planted for all purposes is estimated at 7.11 million acres, up 9 percent from 2006. Barley producers intend to plant 3.70 million acres in 2007, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the second lowest barley acreage on record. Oat acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2007 crop year are expected to total 4.03 million, down 3 percent from last year. All tobacco growers intend to harvest 344,170 acres in 2007, up 2 percent from 2006 and 16 percent above 2005. Acreage to be harvested for dry hay is expected to be 63.1 million in 2007, up 4 percent from 2006.

Data users are reminded that actual acreages planted may vary from intentions because of changes in grower plans, the effects of weather, availability of production inputs, and changes in market conditions prior to planting. Data users are also reminded that this report includes intentions to plant for all purposes.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Crop	Area Planted			
	2005	2006	Ind 2007	2007/06
	(000) Acres			Percent
CORN				
Pennsylvania.....	1,350	1,350	1,450	107
United States.....	81,779	78,327	90,454	115
ALL WHEAT ¹				
Pennsylvania.....	150	160	160	100
United States.....	57,229	57,344	60,303	105
OATS ¹				
Pennsylvania.....	140	135	125	93
United States.....	4,246	4,168	4,029	97
BARLEY ¹				
Pennsylvania.....	55	55	50	91
United States.....	3,875	3,452	3,703	107
SOYBEANS				
Pennsylvania.....	430	430	410	95
United States.....	72,032	75,522	67,140	89
SORGHUM				
Pennsylvania.....	11	13	11	85
United States.....	6,454	6,522	7,109	109
DRY ALL HAY ²				
Pennsylvania.....	1,600	1,750	1,700	97
United States.....	61,729	60,807	63,056	104
ALL TOBACCO ²				
Pennsylvania.....	5.0	7.9	9.4	119
United States.....	297.1	339.0	344.2	102

¹ Includes area planted in preceding fall. ² Area harvested.

MARCH GRAIN STOCKS

Pennsylvania's **corn** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 was 42.2 million bushels, down 28 percent from last year's level of 59.0 million bushels. On-farm corn stocks amounted to 35 million bushels down 43 percent from December's level. Off-farm stocks were 7.2 million bushels. **Wheat** stored off farms totaled 7.1 million bushels, up 34 percent from last year, but down 11 percent from December 2006's total of 8.0 million bushels. **Soybeans** stored off farms totaled 3.14 million bushels down 2 percent from December. **Barley** stored off farms was 471 thousand bushels, down 94 thousand bushels from December. **Oats** stored in all positions were 3.5 million bushels, 3.0 million on farm and 515 thousand off farm. Pennsylvania's on-farm stocks of corn and oats are the only two commodities published; all other commodities are not published separately but instead are included with an unallocated National total.

For the **United States**, **corn** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 6.07 billion bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 3.33 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 18

percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.74 billion bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 2.86 billion bushels, compared with 2.83 billion bushels during the same period last year. **Soybeans** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 1.78 billion bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago and the largest March 1 stocks on record. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 910 million bushels, up 4 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 874 million bushels, are up 10 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2006 - February 2007 quarter totaled 917 million bushels, up 10 percent from the same period a year earlier. All **wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 856 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 192 million bushels, down 25 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 663 million bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 459 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Feb 2006	Jan 2006	Feb 2007	Feb 2006	Jan 2006	Feb 2007
Layers	Thous.	23,667	23,585	22,961	350,018	347,133	347,005
Eggs Per 100 Layers	Number	2,151	2,396	2,186	1,994	2,200	1,992
Eggs Produced	Million	509	565	502	6,980	7,637	6,914
Chick Hatch-Egg Type	Thous.	4,269	4,470	4,862	33,665	36,926	36,766
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	12,976	14,335	12,581	733,145	797,066	723,753
Poults Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	23,296	25,625	23,987

EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during February 2007 totaled 502 million eggs, down 1 percent from the 509 million eggs produced in February 2006. The total number of layers averaged 22.9 million during February, a 3 percent drop from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,186 eggs during the month, an increase of 35 eggs from February 2006. Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2007 totaled 4.86 million, up 14 percent from the 4.26 million hatched the previous February. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 12.6 million during February 2007, down 3 percent from the same month last year.

United States' egg production totaled 6.91 billion during February 2007, down 1 percent from last year's total during February. The total number of layers during February averaged 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,992 eggs, down slightly from February 2006. Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during February totaled 36.8 million, up 9 percent from February 2006. Broiler-type hatch totaled 723 million, a 1 percent decrease from last year at this time. There were 23.3 million turkey poults placed in the United States during February 2007, up 3 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in Pennsylvania during February 2007 totaled 96.9 million pounds, dressed weight basis, up 5 percent from February 2006. Beef production, at 86.7 million pounds live weight, was up 10 percent from February 2006. Total head slaughtered was 69,400,

up 10 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 4 pounds to 1,259 pounds. Veal production was 5.6 million pounds live weight, down 1 percent from a year ago. Calf slaughter, at 15,000 head, was up 7 percent, and average live weight decreased 27 pounds to 376 pounds. Pork production, at 56.5 million pounds live weight, was down slightly from a year earlier. Total head slaughtered was 225,100, down 2 percent from February of 2006. Average live weight was 252 pounds, up 4 pounds from February of last year. Lamb and mutton production was 285,000 pounds live weight, down 5 percent. The number slaughtered was 3,000, down 3 percent from February of last year. The average live weight decreased 2 pounds from February 2006 to 95 pounds.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, FEB 2007

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod	Million pounds	96.9	3,615.6
Cattle	1,000 Head	69.4	2,561.7
	1,000 pounds live	86,720	3,250,650
Calves	1,000 Head	15.0	66.9
	1,000 pounds live	5,619	20,401
Hogs	1,000 Head	225.1	8,117.0
	1,000 pounds live	56,493	2,183,691
Sheep & Lambs	1,000 Head	3.0	204.4
	1,000 pounds live	285	28,631



County estimates for 2006 can now be found online for barley, oats, wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum.

Check out NASS's homepage at www.nass.usda.gov and click on QuickSTATS

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